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Requirements for [REDACTED] Tour To Czechoslovakia to Study Regional
Development 25X1A5a1

1. The economic role of the Regional, District and Local National Committees recently was supposed to have been enhanced, particularly in such sectors as agriculture, the local economy, education, health and other public services. Official statements, however, do not clearly distinguish between new powers actually given to the National Committees, and those that are merely prospective.

Do the National Committees actually possess and exercise the right to approve the plans and budgets of enterprises in the above Sectors? Within what limits?

Have the budgets of such enterprises been incorporated into that of the National Committees? If not in all sectors, then which?

Is planning for Machine Tractor Stations solely the responsibility of the National Committees?

To what extent has operational control over enterprises in the above sectors passed from the central ministries to the National Committees?

What supervisory controls are still retained by the ministries?

What are the limits on the discretionary authority of the National Committees?

2. Road administration, restaurants and canteens belonging to state trade, and establishments providing paid services to the population were scheduled to be transferred to the jurisdiction of the National Committees by 1 January 1957.

Has this been done? Have other transfers of a similar nature been made?

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-2-

3. Since December 1956, Czechoslovakia has announced several times other measures to enhance the economic authority of National Committees are under consideration.

Is there any decision yet as to what additional reforms are to be undertaken? If so, what are some of the specific reforms? Has a schedule been set for their implementation?

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